

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4-10, and 12-22 are pending. Claims 2, 3, and 11 have been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claims 1, 4, 10, 12, 17, and 22 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Applicants believe the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Applicants note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 3 and 4 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of original claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, claim 1 and claims 4-9 depending therefrom are patentable.

Independent claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of original claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, claim 10 and claims 12-16 depending therefrom are patentable.

Independent claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of original claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, claim 17 and claims 18-21 depending therefrom are patentable.

Independent claim 22 has been amended to include the limitations of original claims 2 and 3. Accordingly, claim 22 is patentable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/613,055
Amdt. dated December 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 23, 2005

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Chun-Pok Leung
Reg. No. 41,405

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
RL:rl
60662302 v1